E. T. Briggs,

Curtain Fixture.

No. 68,552. Patented Sept. 3, 1867.

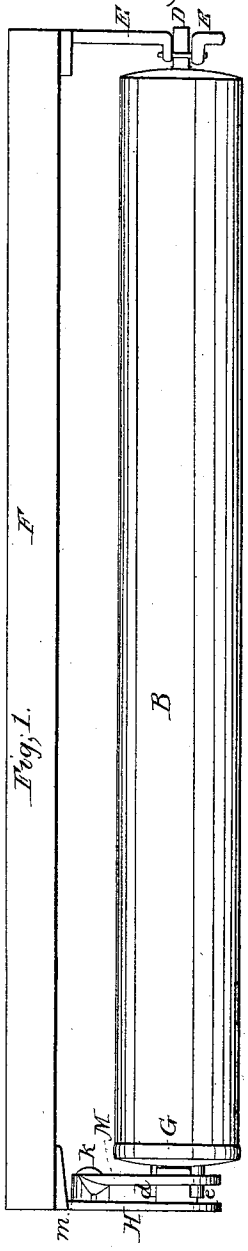

Fig. 1.

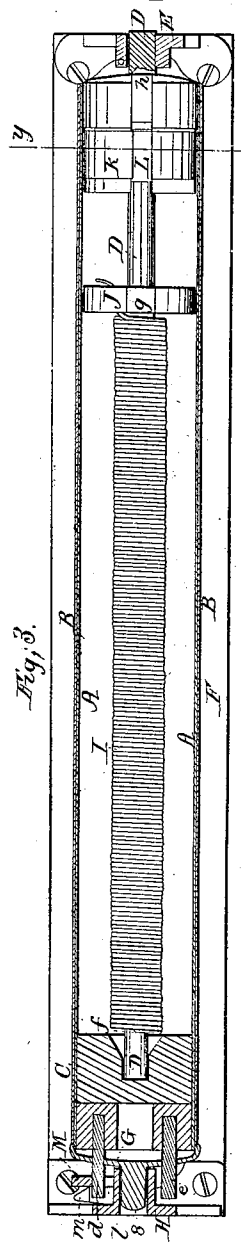

Fig. 3.

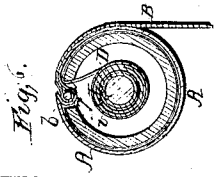

Fig. 6.

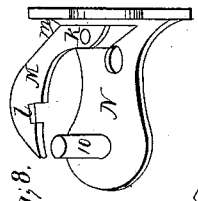

Fig. 8.

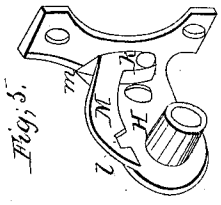

Fig. 5.

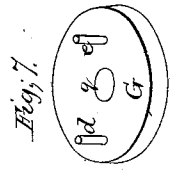

Fig. 7.

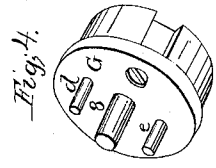

Fig. 4.

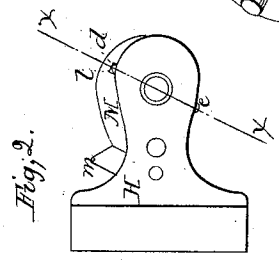

Fig. 2.

Witnesses;
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N. W. Stearns

Inventor;
Edward T. Briggs

United States Patent Office.

EDWARD T. BRIGGS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 68,552, *dated September* 3, 1867; *antedated August* 26, 1867.

IMPROVED CURTAIN FIXTURE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, EDWARD T. BRIGGS, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain improvements in Curtain Fixtures, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan representing my improvements applied to a curtain wound upon its roll, which is supported in brackets attached to a window-frame.

Figure 2 is an end elevation of the same.

Figure 3 is a section on the line *x x* of fig. 2.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of my improved plate to be attached to one end of the curtain-roll.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the bracket, with the device I employ in connection with the plate shown in fig. 4.

Figure 6 is a section on the line *y y* of fig. 3.

Figures 7 and 8 are modifications of the plate shown in fig. 4, and the bracket on which it revolves.

My invention relates to that class of curtain fixtures in which the weight is dispensed with and the curtain wound up by the employment of a spring. When it is required to remove a fixture of this description from its brackets, it becomes necessary to connect the central rod or spindle to the tube or casing surrounding it by means of a pin, in order to prevent the spring from being unwound any further than is necessary to roll up the curtain. Besides the inconvenience, it frequently happens that the spring becomes unwound, and in the attempts to wind it up the roll is liable to be turned in the wrong direction, to the injury of the spring.

The object of my invention is to avoid the above-mentioned difficulties, and consists in the employment of a cord or tape, one end of which is secured to the rod or spindle around which the roll revolves, and to which is attached one end of the spring, the other end of the cord or tape being secured to a block which is fitted into the roll so as to revolve or remain stationary in common therewith; the curtain, when rolled up by the recoil of the spring, serving to wind the cord or tape tightly around the rod or spindle, and prevent the spring from recoiling any further than necessary to wind up the curtain, by which arrangement there is no possibility of unwinding the spring or turning it in a wrong direction when the roll is removed from the brackets; and my invention consists in certain improvements in the mechanism by which the curtain may be retained at any desired height.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In the said drawings, A is a hollow casing of metal or other suitable material, in which is formed a grdove, *a*, for the reception of the upper end of the curtain or shade, B, which is confined in place therein by means of a rod or cord, *b*, passing through its hem. Within one end of this casing A is fitted a circular block, C, provided with a notch or recess, *c*, to allow the block to be slipped over the portion 7 of the casing forming the outside of the groove *a*, and thereby prevent its revolution independently thereof. A circular hole is bored in the block C to receive one end of a circular rod or spindle, D, the other end of which rests in a suitable bearing provided for it in the bracket E, attached to the window-frame F. G is a metal plate secured to one end of the casing A. The plate G is provided with a short cylindrical arbor, 8, which rests upon and revolves freely within a bearing in the outer end of a bracket, H, also attached to the window-frame, projections *d e* being formed on the outside of this plate, for a purpose to be described hereafter. Surrounding the rod or spindle D is a spiral spring, I, one end of which passes through a hole, *f*, in the rod, and is secured thereto, while the other end of the spring is secured to a cylindrical block, J, which is fitted within the casing A by means of the notch *g*, sliding over the portion 7 of the casing forming the outside of the bottom of the groove *a*. A hollow cylindrical block or drum, K, is placed within the casing near the block J, and is provided with a circular hole, *h*, for the reception of the rod or spindle D, the diameter of the hole *h* being of sufficient size to allow the rod to revolve freely therein. To the rod or spindle D is secured, at *i*, one end of a tape, L, the other end of which is passed through an opening in the shell of the block K, and is fastened to its outer periphery. The office of this tape will now be described. When the spring is wound up by the curtain being drawn down, the tape is unwound, and when it is desired to raise the curtain the spring is prevented from recoiling any farther than

necessary to wind up the curtain by the tape winding tightly around the rod or spindle D, thus preventing its further revolution in the same direction.

The construction and operation of the mechanism whereby the curtain is supported at any desired height will now be explained. M is an arm or lever, pivoted at *k* to the inside of the bracket H, and is provided with a notch or recess, *l*, which engages with the projections *d e* as they revolve under the lever, the gravity of which serves to keep it in a position to allow of this being done, the lever being provided with a projection, *m*, by which it is prevented from being thrown over too far out of contact with the projections *d e*. When the curtain is to be raised its full height, one of the projections, *d* or *e*, is disengaged from the recess *l* in the lever, by slightly pulling down the curtain, when it is free to be drawn rapidly up by the recoil of the spring, the revolution of the roll being so rapid that the projections *d e* throw up the lever, and the curtain is prevented from winding further than required, by the tape winding tightly around the shaft. When the curtain is to be only partially rolled up, after pulling it down slightly to release the projection *d* or *e* from the recess *l*, the cord at the bottom of the curtain is retained in the hand, so as to prevent the too rapid recoil of the spring, and thus raise the curtain sufficiently slow to allow one of the projections *d e* to fall into the recess *l* when required. It is evident that the plate G may be provided with a socket, 9, as shown in fig. 7, and the bracket N provided with an arbor, 10, to allow it to revolve thereon, without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Claim.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The tape L, or its equivalent, for connecting the rod or spindle D to the block K, or to the casing A, operating substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

I also claim the bracket H, with its bearing, and the lever M, with its notch or recess *l*, in combination with the plate G, or its equivalent, provided with its arbor 8 and projections *d e*, constructed, arranged, and operated substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

EDWARD T. BRIGGS.

Witnesses:

P. E. TESCHEMACHER.

N. W. STEARNS.